



We started our journey through advent with our special assembly where year 6 dressed the tree and re-told the stories, legends and beliefs around the many decorations we have. It was a beautiful way to start this Christmas season together. Thank you to all members of our community who joined us for this reflective time. - **Mrs A M Kendal, Head of School**

"Dear Young people, do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things!" **Pope Francis**

Pupil of the Week:

Pupils who gained a certificate this week are:

Reception – Mackenzie

Year 1 – George

Year 2 – Elias

Year 3 – Eryka

Year 4 – Bradley

Year 5 – Aleksander

Year 6 – Isabelle

House Points: Well done to **St Anne Line** this week's winners with 94 points!

St Bernadette - 83

St Francis – 76

St Paul – 62

St Theresa – 61

St Thomas More – 59

St Anne Line – 94

Reconciliation: On Tuesday Father Bernard joined us to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation, where Chaplaincy team led us in some readings. Children reflected on times where they have made mistakes and prayed for God to guide them as they prepare for his coming at Christmas.

Mrs McNaughton's Choir: Thank you to the wonderful choir who have provided much joy this week to others. On Tuesday they sang at the Princess Alexandra Volunteers Christmas lunch and received rapturous applause. On Friday they took a walk to our local Abbot care home and sang some beautiful carols.

After School Provision: We are pleased as a school to launch our after school club for Reception to Year 6. Please see the email sent to you on Monday for an update on this.

Inclusion Report: Please see link [here](#) to our recent Inclusion Report. As you can see this validates all the hard work Miss

Kendell and the team here at St Luke's do to ensure all children feel welcome and cared for.

Christmas Dinner: Thank you to the fabulous Mrs Fullen and Mrs Platt for a truly marvellous Christmas dinner on Wednesday. The food was delicious and children enjoyed creating some special Christmas party hats and Christmas crafts to bring home and share with you too.

Water Bottles & Valuables: There are some very expensive water bottles being marketed such as AirUp which we do not expect to see in school (see Parent handbook extract below). Please do not buy these for school use.
Valuables: The school strongly discourages children to bring anything valuable into school, especially of financial or sentimental value as they can easily get lost or damaged... The school cannot be held responsible for anything lost or damaged.

Pet Therapy: This week we had Woody a therapy dog come and visit us. The feedback from the small group of students who met him was very positive and we look forwards to welcoming him back next term.

Travelling Crib: Our travelling Crib has already been making its way around many homes in our community. If you would like to borrow it for an evening to share a prayer do email Mrs Walsh in the office.

E-Safety: The 2 Johns are running a free online safety training session for parents on Sunday evening (10 December) at 7pm to launch the ESCB online safety week. The virtual session and Q&A will be hosted on Zoom and also [The 2 Johns Facebook page](#). This will be followed by a week of online safety messages and advice on the ESCB social media accounts. [Find out more about the campaign.](#)

PTA Raffle: Thank you for all your generous donations for the PTA raffle, they have been able to make up some amazing hampers from them.

The children have been sent home with raffle tickets for you to purchase. Raffle tickets will also be available to purchase before or after the Christmas productions next week.

Reception 2024/2025 Applications: You can now apply online for your child's Reception school place. Information on this can be found [here](#) on the Essex website. Closing date for applications is 15th January 2024.

Dinner Menu: Our school dinner menu can be located [here](#). W/C 11th December will be week 1.

Next 2 weeks:

Mon 11th Dec: Y3-6 Carols & Reading service 9.30am

Tues 12th Dec: Y1 & Y2 Christmas Production 2.15pm

Wed 13th Dec: Y4 Saxon Workshop

Thu 14th Dec: Nursery & Reception Nativity 9.15am

Fri 15th Dec: Y2 Class Trip

Tue 19th Dec: Reception Parents Road Safety Talk 9am

Wed 20th Dec: Reception-Y6 **1pm finish**
Nursery 11.45am finish

Key Dates: Please see the link for [class assemblies, performance, and other school events](#) [Key Dates: 2023-2024](#)

Mass Times:

Holy Cross Parish Mass Times are:

Saturday 5.30pm **Sunday** 9am and 11am
holycrosschurchharlow.co.uk

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Mass times are:

STM Church **Sunday** 8.30am

OLF Church: **Saturday** 6pm

Sunday 10.30am, 12.15pm (Polish)

<https://olfstm.weebly.com/>

